

**Interagency Coordinating Council**  
**July 24, 2012**  
**Minutes**

**ICC MEMBERS**

Ann Woolfolk (*Chair*)  
Senator Patricia M. Blevins  
Bhavana Viswanathan  
Mary Knapp  
Pam Reuther  
Kathleen Orr  
Carlos Duran  
Rena Hallam (*Proxy for*  
*Michael Gamel-McCormick*)  
Martha Gregor (*Proxy for*  
*Susan Ccyk*)  
Hazel Cole  
Bruce Orr  
Rodney Brittingham  
Ann Meduri  
Beverly Weigand (*Proxy for*  
*Glyne Williams*)  
Robin David (*Proxy for*  
*Linda Nemes*)  
Al Rose (*Proxy for*  
*Pat Maichle*)  
Verna Thompson (*Proxy for*  
*DOE*)

**INTERESTED PERSONS**

Freda Collins (CDW)  
Barbara Akenhead (CDW)  
Al Orr (parent)  
Pam Green (CCHS)  
Devon Dyal (CDW)  
Diane Foor (CDW)  
Flo Kinney (Sunny Days)  
Dennis Rubino (DE State University)  
Janice Buckwalter (Bayada Nurses)  
Beth MacDonald (Emergency Medical Services)  
Mary Agnes Rutkowski (BAYADA Pediatrics)  
Candace Shetzler (A Child's Potential)  
Harriet Dichter (Office of Early Learning)  
Nancy Widdoes (Office of Early Learning)

**STAFF**

Rosanne Griff-Cabelli  
Peggy Miller  
Inita Joyner  
Sue Campbell  
Carolann Schumann  
Lisa Crim

*Participated via conference call ~ no participants*

**Meeting Called to Order and Approval of ICC Minutes**

Ann Woolfolk, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm. Meeting participants were introduced. Ann went over the name tags for all attending to remind members, proxies and interested person of who can vote. Yellow tags ~ ICC members (can vote), Blue tags ~ Proxies for Members (can vote), Orange tags ~ Interested Person (cannot vote) and Green tag ~ staff (cannot vote).

Dr. Carlos Duran moved to approve the ICC minutes. Bruce Orr seconded the motion. All in favor.

Ann Woolfolk took a moment to recognize Senator, Patricia M. Blevins whom was among the attendees at the Interagency Coordinating Council Meeting. Senator, Blevins said that when Senator Nancy Cook left the Senate she let her know that this was one of her most important duties and she felt very strongly about the ICC. Senator Blevins said that she was asked personally by Senator Cook if she would take this task on. Senator Blevins said that she is especially honored to take Senator Cook's place with the ICC and she look forward to working with everyone.

Ann Woolfolk, Chair mentioned that the Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) is trying to move ahead with finding ways to get members to become more involved even if they cannot physically be present at the ICC Meetings. We are working on getting software that would allow members to be present via *video conferencing*. Also, Ann pointed out how we would love to have the proxy's input and conversation and have them to report back to their designated government appointed members. It would also be great if the appointed government members can be present at these meetings as well as the proxy's.

### **Parent Presentation**

Kathleen Orr along with her Husband gave a beautiful parent presentation about their child. Highlights will be sent as a presentation.

### **DPH role in the Universal Newborn and Infant Hearing Screening legislation, HB #384**

Bhavana Viswanathan, Division of Public Health gave a brief summary in reference to the Universal Newborn and Infant Hearing Screening Legislation, HB #384 which has been passed but is awaiting the Governor's signature. Bhavana said there was a lot of progress made with increasing the amount of staff needed, they are now fully staffed. There has also been lots of improvement on data and the Data Tracking Systems and will continue to based on this legislation. The current data tracking system and process is not affected by this because it meets the legislative requirements. One thing that this new legislative will help with is timely reporting of *Hearing Screening Results*. In the new legislation, the Audiologist is also required to report results within ten days as well as the Hospitals.

Another very important piece relating to HB #384 is that there will be an *Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Advisory Board* that will advise the Secretary on issues relating to the newborn hearing evaluation, intervention, treatment and follow-up care for infants and children with hearing loss. Members shall be appointed by the Governor and shall serve three year terms that are renewable. The Board membership shall have 11 members and consist of 1of each of the following: *Audiologist; Speech-language Pathologist; Pediatrician/Neonatologist; Otolaryngologist; Neonatal Nurse; An adult who is deaf or hard of hearing; Parent of child with a Hearing loss; Teacher of children with a Hearing loss; A representative from the designated agency responsible for IDEA Part C; A representative from the Department of Education Early Childhood Workgroup; and A representative from the Statewide Programs for Deaf and Hard of Hearing.*

Dr. Carlos Duran, of Christiana Care Health System made a quick comment on the national follow-up average rate of the number of babies that failed this *Hearing Screening Test* and he said that the Department of Public Health (DPH) is working hard at tracking these babies and since they are much better staffed now they can do an even better job then what they have been doing so far. Future updates to come.

**See Handout ~House Amendment NO.1 to House Bill NO. 384**

### **What are the greatest challenges to early intervention providers in DE? Discussion from provider and parent perspectives**

Hazel Cole, Parent Information Center of DE (PIC) briefly discussed feedback from a small group of parents on the early intervention challenges from a Parents Perspective. Hazel said that we need to see more input from parents. She said that a plan is being put in place to compile some questions to send to parents of children birth to five with special needs to capture that transition period. The plan is to have this done through *Families Knows Best*

(*Family Shade*) and also have the Parent information Center (*PIC*) send out a survey to email recipients. Hazel said that PIC had very few inquiries over the last twelve months from parents of children birth-three years old which is a good sign. Inquiry topics included: *Transition; children about to turn three and caught in the transition timing; CDW referral; Child Find services; Child about to turn three years old, discharged from CDW previously and started to develop issues again; Homeless, child just turned three years old, no services received in school system.* Overall, when asked what they would change about the services they receive, parents responded with nothing, they are happy with early intervention services.

Pam Reuther, Easter Seals DE & Maryland Eastern Shore discussed feedback from different agencies in reference to the Provider Perspective and was able to compile some "Trends" which include the following: *Agency and Interagency; Serving the Child and Family; Child Development Watch; Child Outcome Survey Form; Transition.* Pam also handed out a presentation of summarized responses from the following agencies: *AI DuPont /Nemours; Bayada; Christiana Care; Easter Seals; Rescare and Sunny Days.* Some of the agencies posing the question to the front line interventionists. The presentation compiled the trends of more than one provider /agency indicating the same concern. For more information, please see handout.

**See Handout** ~*What are the Greatest Challenges to Early Intervention providers in Delaware? Parent & Provider Perspective*

#### **Update on Early Learning Challenge grant**

Harriet Dichter, Director, Office of Early Learning talked about the Early Learning Challenge focused on building statewide systems of high-quality early learning and development programs for high-needs children. The summer has seen a high level of activity in this important work and brought exciting new opportunities for new partnerships for early learning success in Delaware. The Office of Early Learning is moving along with the creation of the state leadership team, which is essential to the implementation strategy laid out in the Early Learning Challenge grant; the coordination of those efforts across three different state agencies; Departments of Education (DOE); Services to Children, Youth and Their Families (DSCYF), and the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS); and the formation of effective partnerships with early childhood, school and business leaders throughout Delaware. The Early Learning Team recently completed a major submission to the U.S. Departments of Education and Health and Human Services on the state's implementation plan. They are eagerly awaiting feedback as they continue to move the work into deeper implementation. For more information, please see handout.

**See Handout** ~*Early Learning Challenge Update (July 5, 2012)*

#### **Discussion regarding interface with early intervention**

Verna Thompson, Department of Education briefly spoke about the Early Challenge grant and how she feels that it is remarkable that in this state Part C, Child Development Watch and the Section 619 Program were included in helping with the writing of this grant. Verna said right from the beginning when we had the vision of just knowing that we wanted to apply for the grant, we listened to people to see what they wanted it to look like and what they wanted to see in the Early Challenge grant. Verna said now when we look at the grant, we know that it was the influence of, ICC; CDW; Easter Seals; and lots of other people and programs that participated in the writing of the grant.

Coordinators from Part C and Part B, Section 619(3-5year olds) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, for each state, all territories, the District of Columbia, Bureau of Indian Education, and the Department of Defense were invited to complete an anonymous online survey consisting of 10 items, 11 of which were fixed response questions. One hundred and five (105) coordinators responded to the survey which examined issues related to teaming in their programs. Results of the survey were given out as a handout.

**Handout given ~Team Practice in Part C and Part B (619) Programs**

### **ICC member sharing**

Pam mentioned that it was *Healthy Kid's Day* at the State Fair between the hours of 9am -2pm (7/24/12).

Pam announced that the Coordinating Council for Children with Disabilities meet on the fourth Wednesday of every other month if anyone is interested in participating

If you are an agency that serves children in their lifetime and through their transition, Easter Seals is having a *Forum* in September 2012 for anyone who would like to attend.

Parent Information Center, New Castle County is moving to Newport and the office is closed until August 1, 2012.

### **Adjournment**

Pam Reuther moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:00pm. Bruce Orr seconded.

### **Future Meetings**

October 23, 2012, 12noon to 3:00pm  
DE Technical and Community College, Terry Campus  
Education and Technology Building (ETB), 1<sup>st</sup> floor, room 727  
Dover, DE

January 22, 2013, 12noon to 3:00pm  
DE Technical and Community College, Terry Campus  
Education and Technology Building (ETB), 1<sup>st</sup> floor, room 727  
Dover, DE

April 23, 2012, 12noon to 3:00pm  
DE Technical and Community College, Terry Campus  
Education and Technology Building (ETB), 1<sup>st</sup> floor, room 727  
Dover, DE

For additional information or copies of information provided at ICC meetings, please contact Inita Joyner @ 302-255-9134 or Inita.Joyner@state.de.us

Documents may also be found on the Birth to Three website:  
<http://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dms/epqc/birth3/directry.html>